

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 28, 2008 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Miranda led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Bunting, Candioly, Endo-Roberts, Miranda, Rische, Strehler, and Chairperson Smisek.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Acting Cultural Services Manager McClelland and Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Endo-Roberts moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Strehler seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2007**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Miranda moved for the approval of the December 17, 2007 Cultural Arts Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Strehler and passed by unanimous roll call vote (with Commissioners Bunting, Candioly, and Rische abstaining).

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6A. ANNOUNCE NEW COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

Chairperson Smisek and staff welcomed Commissioners Bunting, Candioly, and Rische, and Commissioners took turns introducing themselves and sharing their backgrounds.

**6B. 2008 EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARDS**

Acting Cultural Services Manager McClelland provided background information about the Excellence in Arts awards program for the benefit of new Commissioners. He announced that the 2008 Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony is scheduled for April 27,

2008 in the Toyota Meeting Hall and noted that guidelines, criteria, a list of past recipients, and nomination forms were included in agenda packets. It was confirmed that the deadline for submitting a nomination is March 5, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

The 2008 Chair assignments were selected as follows:

Music	Commissioner Candioly
Visual Arts	Commissioner Strehler
Arts Education	Commissioner Rische
Drama	Commissioner Miranda
Dance	Commissioner Bunting
Literary Art	Commissioner Endo-Roberts
Katy Geissert Award	Chairperson Smisek

Acting Cultural Services Manager McClelland encouraged Commissioners to distribute nomination forms to colleagues and acquaintances.

#### **7A. RECAP UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2008**

Acting Cultural Services Manager McClelland reported that grant applications to non-profit arts organizations would be mailed out in early February, with selection of recipients to take place in May. He reviewed other upcoming events that include the joint meeting with City Council on February 26, the 2008 Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony on April 27, the Torrance Art Museum exhibitions *Systems Theory* and *Song to Shores* from January 12 to March 8, and Torrance Theatre Company's production of "Into the Woods" in mid March 2008. He noted that the 2008 season will also include "Laramie Project," "Baby," "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," and "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" and explained the benefits of purchasing season tickets.

A brief discussion centered on possible topics of conversation for the joint meeting with City Council. Some of the topics suggested were: Torrance Art Museum accreditation, Wilson Park gazebo/amphitheatre, Torrance Theatre Company, and cultural facilities and classes.

#### **8. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **8A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS COMMITTEE**

No report.

##### **8B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

No report.

##### **8C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson shared her background and responsibilities with new Commissioners and encouraged them to be art supporters. She distributed postcards of the current exhibitions, *Systems Theory* and *Song to Snore*, fliers regarding the Artful Days lecture series with Mary Drobney, and Torrance Seasons, noting that pages 25 to 46 are Cultural Services Division classes. She stated that they also coordinate with local artists in the Torrance Artists Guild and South Bay Watercolor Society to show their work.

Responding to Commissioner Miranda's inquiry, she advised that they do not plan to offer classes to learn languages, adding that they often juggle to find studio space for existing classes.

Acting Cultural Services Manager McClelland provided his personal background and additional information about the Division, noting that 1,500 classes are offered each year. He stated that they were also responsible for Torrance Civic Chorale and showcase of performing arts classes. He offered to give all Commissioners a tour of the Cultural Arts Center facilities.

In response to Commissioner Candioly's inquiry, he stated that funding for Grants to Non-profit Arts Organizations comes from the City.

Cultural Services Consultant Powers introduced himself and welcomed new Commissioners. He distributed fliers and provided information about the new Works in Progress series "1968: Year that Rocked!" that begins on February 27, 2008 in the Nakano Theatre with "Memphis." He stated that Cultural Services Division is working closely with the Torrance Public Library, Torrance Art Museum, and Torrance Historical Society to present this series. He briefly discussed other programs that include Wild Wednesdays, Hot Fun Sunday, and Ooodles of Noodles.

## **10. ORALS**

**10A.** Commissioner Strehler stated that she had the opportunity to see the Police Department Band from Zurich, Switzerland on December 28, 2008. She also enjoyed the Torrance Artist Guild meeting, General Plan focus meeting, Torrance Art Museum reception, and Torrance Symphony.

**10B.** Commissioner Miranda shared information about his trip to the Philippines.

**10C.** Commissioner Candioly thanked Commissioner Endo-Roberts for welcoming him to the Commission on the night of his appointment.

**10D.** Commissioner Bunting stated that she visited the Orange County Museum of Art, Los Angeles Art Fair at Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, and the Santa Monica Museum of Art.

**10E.** Commissioner Bunting suggested that the Torrance Art Museum promote its exhibitions farther in advance and provide enhanced brochures about the exhibits.

**10F.** Commissioner Endo-Roberts welcomed new Commissioners.

**10G.** Commissioner Smisek discussed her trip to Australia and New Zealand and stated that she enjoyed the opening at a Hermosa Beach art gallery.

**10H.** Acting Cultural Services Manager McClelland reminded Commissioners about the Commissioner dinner on January 29, 2008.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:10 p.m., Commissioner Miranda moved to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall for a joint meeting with Torrance City Council. Commissioner Strehler seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Smisek so ordered.

Approved as Submitted February 26, 2008 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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